I lived in Whitney Hall my freshman year. It was the first year it was opened and coed living was very new to dorm life. My two roommates and I were nursing majors. The day we moved in we wanted to meet some boys, so we went down to the first boy's floor and hung out. I did met a boy and he turned out to be a great person. Linn and I went together all through college and married after I graduated. I had always wanted to be a nurse, but the day that I was handed a syringe and an orange and told to practice since we were all going to give each other shots, I walked out of the classroom and changed my major to nutrition. Dr. Evelyn Mar was one of my instructors during the next 3 years. I joined Alpha Gamma Delta sorority my freshman year and had many good friends and great times as a coed.

I graduated from Chico in 1973 with a BS in nutrition. Linn and I moved to Arizona and I decided to go back to school and get my AD in nursing. I had grown up some and even though I have always hated giving shots, I was able to conquer my fears. We moved to San Diego and my first nursing job was in Labor and Delivery, and I loved it. We moved to Sacramento and I continued to work in L&D, while pregnant with our first daughter Sara. We moved to Salinas when I was pregnant with our second daughter Claire. I continued to work in L&D for the next 20 years at the hospital in Monterey. I loved the challenge and I had the chance to delivery a few babies who just couldn't wait for the doctor. What a privilege it was to be a part of one of life's most precious moments. The next 15 years in my nursing career were spent in a surgical unit as a recovery nurse and then as the Asst. Director.

Our two daughters are a joy. We spent our family time tent camping in Kings Canyon, camping at 10,000 feet in the eastern Sierras, attending volleyball games, swim meets, and school plays. They were both interested in school, had friends, graduated from college and married good guys. When our girls left home, I became a CASA, court appointed special advocate. I was the CASA for a young girl, Angela, for 3 years. It was, at times, very difficult and frustrating, but I felt like I might be able to help her see other possibilities available to her.

When Linn and I were ready to retire, we decided we wanted to live close to our daughters, our mothers and siblings, so Chico seemed the perfect place. Our daughter Sara lives in Tulelake and works for the family farm. Claire is a stay at home mom and lives here in Chico. Spending time with our family is a wonderful benefit of retirement. I also like to take OLLI classes, garden and sing.

Linn and I moved to Chico in 2014 and I knew I wanted to join a women's organization that was committed to making Chico a good place to live and one that also had fun. I first learned of SI Chico by attending the 2015 Home and Garden Show. I was so impressed with the work and commitment it took to organize such a successful event. I didn't know anyone in the club, so I sent an email, went to a getting-to-know-you lunch and decided to join. SI Chico is a wonderful group of interested, accomplished, friendly and community oriented women. I look forward to many years of friendship and service in SI Chico.